



# Use of Controlled Vocabularies



Potential applications to time series  
data



# It's 1984 ...



<http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-gQWSBV6EnBo/TiRcN9unwbl/AAAAAAAAAPXs/tydq754TRol/s1600/vgdvd3.jpg>

# Friday night



[http://i.telegraph.co.uk/multimedia/archive/01594/corey-haim\\_1594267c.jpg](http://i.telegraph.co.uk/multimedia/archive/01594/corey-haim_1594267c.jpg)

# MISSION: PIZZA



“What’s their address?”

*“1428 Elm St.”*



“Be there in 30 mins or less  
...or it’s free.”



# MISSION: MOVIE

“GET THE ONE WITH...”

- Righteous **girl** + bodacious **dude**
- **Light beams** flying everywhere
- The one with the “**Force**”



# The search begins...



# MOVIE: FOUND!

- ✓ Righteous **girl** + bodacious **dude**
- ✓ **light beams** flying everywhere
- ✓ The one with the "**Force**"





# BACK AT THE HOUSE...



<http://static.guim.co.uk/sys-images/Film/Pix/pictures/2010/2/24/1267010697702/Winona-Ryder-Kim-Walker-L-001.jpg>



# A Tale of Two Elm Streets



Which 'Elm St' was that?



<http://i.huffpost.com/gen/1594554/thumbs/o-PIZZA-facebook.jpg>

<http://themaindamie.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/a-nightmare-on-elm-street-2010-horror-movies-11384409-720-297.jpg>

[http://img.timeinc.net/time/daily/2009/0901/360\\_elm\\_street\\_0105.jpg](http://img.timeinc.net/time/daily/2009/0901/360_elm_street_0105.jpg)

# ELM ST. near Austin, TX



<http://brooklynsteez.com/products/square/81690.png>

<http://tinyurl.com/mtmlbp>

# At least, you have MEGAFORCE

- ✓ Righteous **girl** + bodacious **dude**
- ✓ **light beams** flying everywhere
- ✓ The one with the "**Force**"





# Betamax vs. VHS



# WHAT HAPPENED, DUDE?

## PIZZA

no results = *ambiguous* address

## MEGA FORCE

got results, not what was *expected*

## BETAMAX

results weren't *useful*

# F.A.I.R.



Findability and Accessibility has greatly improved.



Scaling interoperation is difficult



Without progress, ocean data risks being siloed

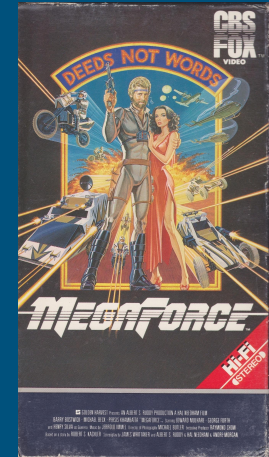




# What does interoperation require?

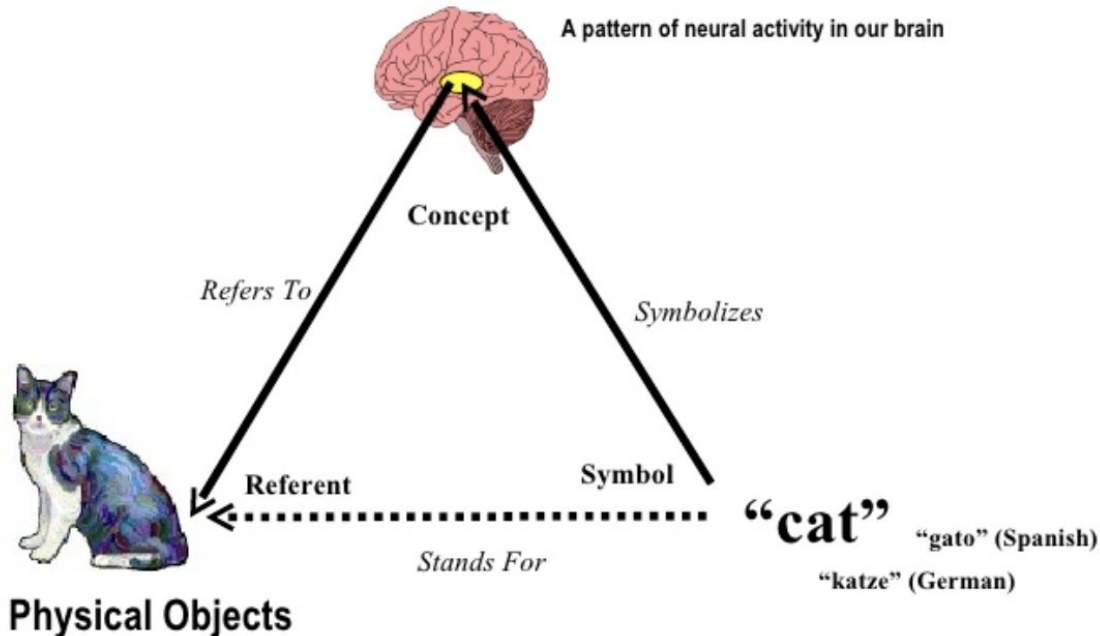
---

## AGREEMENT



# of Concepts & Computers

## Semantic Triangle

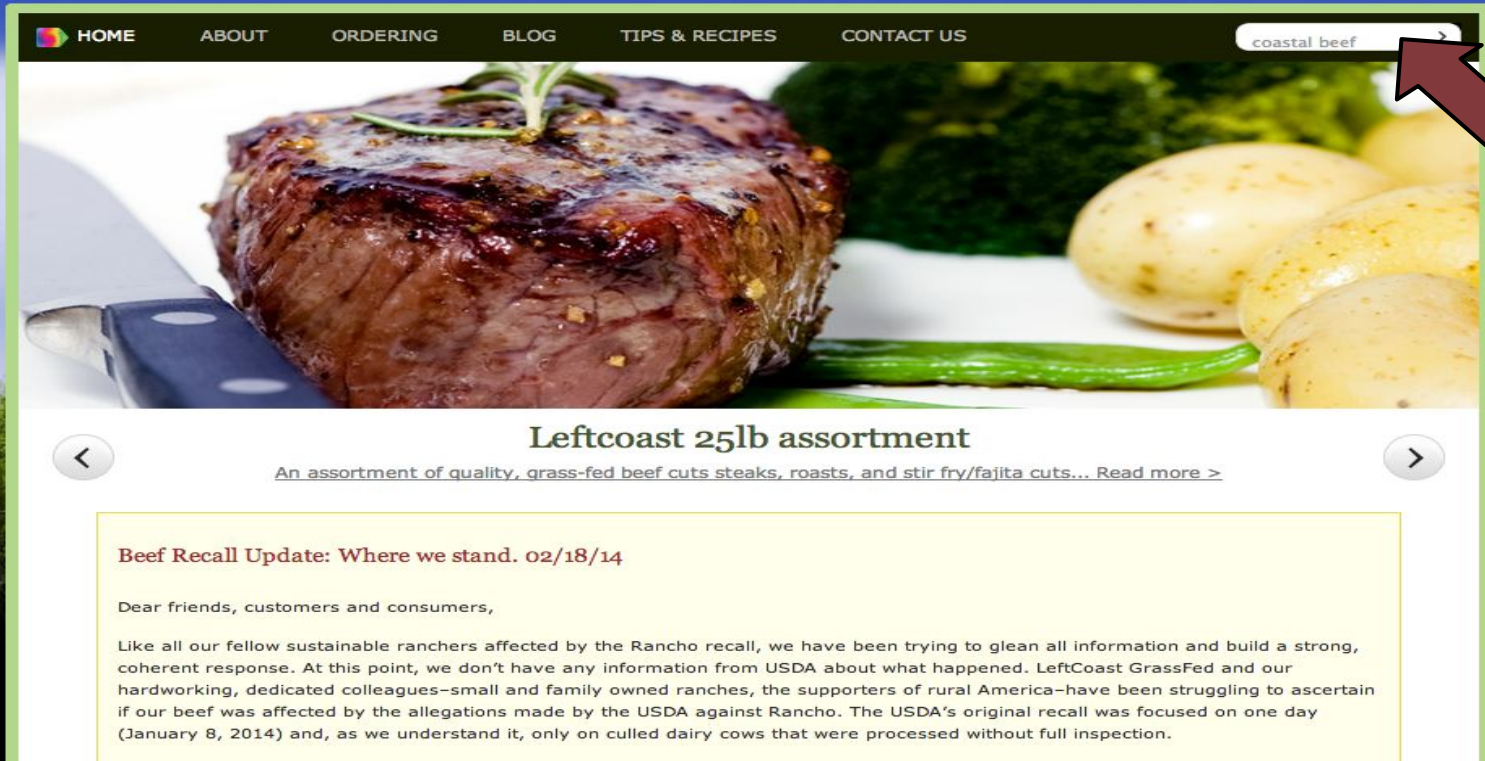


Referents **MUST**  
pass through Concepts

Computers can only  
exchange *symbols*

People use **context** to  
derive the correct  
meaning

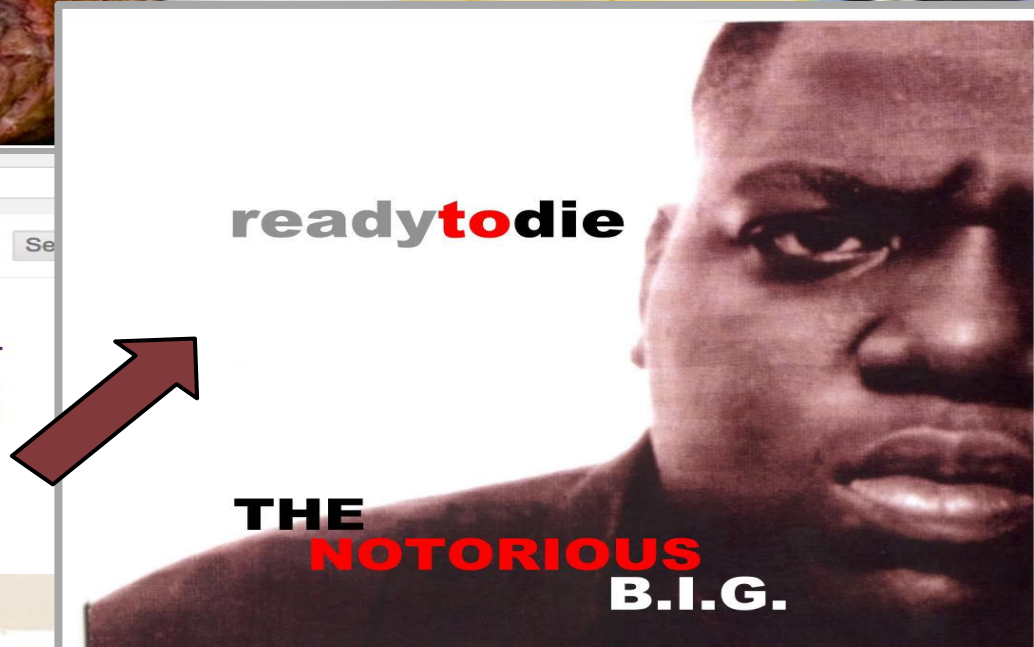
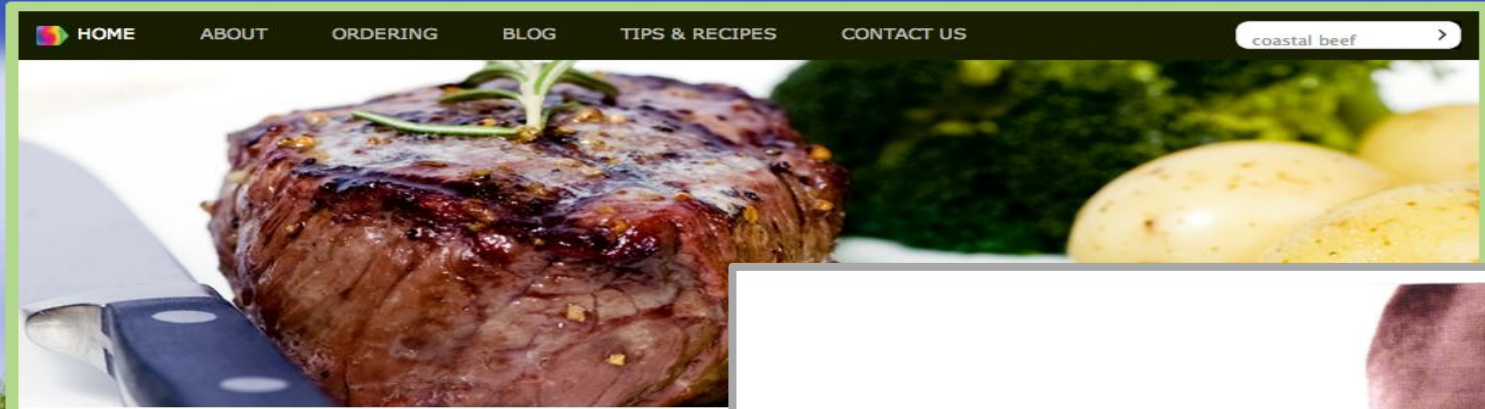
# SEARCH: "COASTAL BEEF"



<http://www.leftcoastgrassfed.com/>



# IS "COASTAL BEEF" DEADLY?



<http://tinyurl.com/laawqgv>  
<http://i343.photobucket.com/albums/o465/MattLeader/Biggie-ReadyToDie-CD.jpg>

<name>Adam Shepherd</name>  
<address>1428 Elm St.</address>  
<city>Austin</city>  
<state>TX</state>

<名称>亚当谢泼德</名称>  
<地址>1428 榆樹街</地址>  
<市>奧斯汀</市>  
<國>德州</國>

Without a “data dictionary” it’s difficult to know that meaning of the data elements is.

Tags appear in patterns, but meaning is a mystery to a computer

---

<name>

<名称>

<https://schema.org/name>

**Machines can detect if two  
URIs are the same.**

<name>

<https://schema.org/name>

<名称>

**Machines can detect if two  
URIs are the same.**

Adam Shepherd

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4486-9448>

亚当谢泼德



# Works now, today

google.com/search?q=hotel+reservation&aq=chrome..69i57j0j...

www.google.com wants to know your location

Block Allow

Google


5,000 hotels online

## Hotels | 96822, Honolulu, HI


About these results

Thu, Sep 19 Fri, Sep 20 2

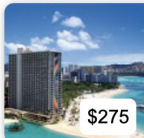
Guest favorites Budget options Luxury stays Deals




**Ala Moana Hotel**  
4.1 ★★★★★ (3,204)  
Free Wi-Fi  
\$189




**The Royal Hawaiian, a Luxury Collection Resort**  
4.5 ★★★★★ (2,454)  
Iconic 1927 beachfront resort & dining  
\$429



**Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort**  
4.3 ★★★★★ (13,397)  
Lively hotel on beachfront grounds  
\$275



**Hale Koa Hotel**  
4.6 ★★★★★ (4,054)  
Free Wi-Fi



Map data ©2019 Google

→ View 136 hotels

# Data on the Web Best Practices

W3C Recommendation 31 January 2017



## DISCOVERABILITY

- [Provide metadata](#)
- [Provide descriptive metadata](#)
- [Use persistent URIs as identifiers of datasets](#)
- [Use persistent URIs as identifiers within datasets](#)
- [Assign URIs to dataset versions and series](#)
- [Use Web Standards as the foundation of APIs](#)
- [Cite the Original Publication](#)

## COMPREHENSION

- [Provide metadata](#)
- [Provide descriptive metadata](#)
- [Provide structural metadata](#)
- [Provide data provenance information](#)
- [Use locale-neutral data representations](#)
- [Reuse vocabularies, preferably standardized ones](#)
- [Choose the right formalization level](#)
- [Gather feedback from data consumers](#)
- [Enrich data by generating new data](#)
- [Provide Complementary Presentations](#)

## ACCESS

- [Provide bulk download](#)
- [Provide Subsets for Large Datasets](#)
- [Use content negotiation for serving data available in multiple formats](#)
- [Provide real-time access](#)
- [Provide data up to date](#)
- [Make data available through an API](#)
- [Use Web Standards as the foundation of APIs](#)
- [Provide Complementary Presentations](#)

## INTEROPERABILITY

- [Use persistent URIs as identifiers of datasets](#)
- [Use persistent URIs as identifiers within datasets](#)
- [Reuse vocabularies, preferably standardized ones](#)
- [Choose the right formalization level](#)
- [Make data available through an API](#)
- [Use Web Standards as the foundation of APIs](#)
- [Avoid Breaking Changes to Your API](#)
- [Provide Feedback to the Original Publisher](#)

# W3C Data on the Web Best Practices

## INTEROPERABILITY

Use persistent URIs as identifiers of datasets

★ Use persistent URIs as identifiers within datasets

Reuse vocabularies, preferably standardized ones

Choose the right formalization level

Make data available through an API

Use Web Standards as the foundation of APIs

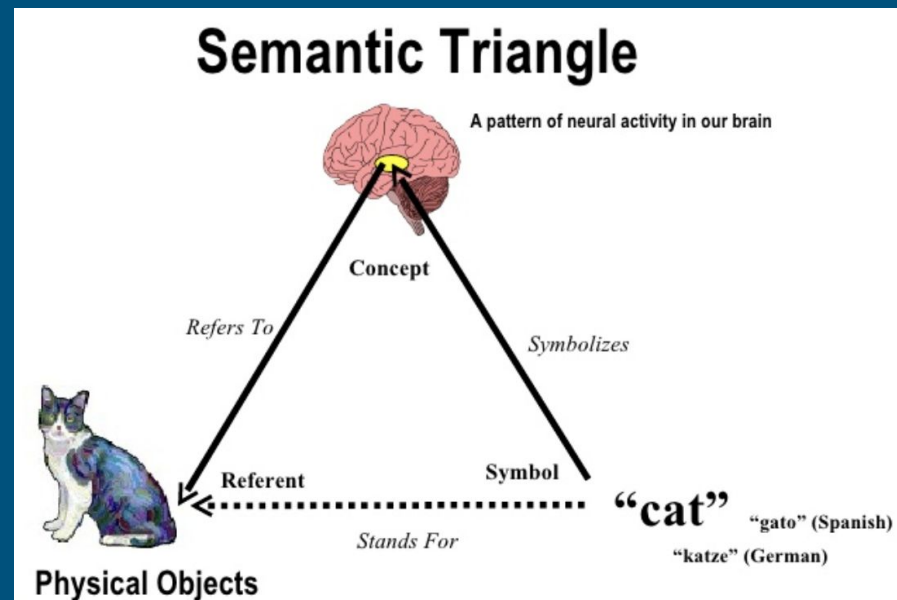
Avoid Breaking Changes to Your API

Provide Feedback to the Original Publisher

Making ocean data agreeable (with each other)?

# AGREEMENT on identifiers within datasets

- Parameters
- Methods
- Instrumentation
- Etc...







## DATABASE

Programs	44
Projects	1,085
Deployments	2,888
Platforms	596
Datasets	9,447
Instruments	487
Parameters	1,420
People	2,736
Affiliations	594
Funding	93
Awards	2,044

## Parameter: Magnetic\_susceptibility

**Short Description:** Magnetic\_susceptibility

**Short Name:** Magnetic\_susceptibility

**Official Name:** Magnetic susceptibility

**Units:**

**Units External Identifier:**

**Graphable:**

**No Data Value:**

**Maximum Value:**

**External Identifier:**

» skos:exactMatch <http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDm/>

**Minimum Value:**

### ▼ Description

The degree to which a sediment sample is affected by a magnetic field.

### ▼ Datasets associated with this parameter

Dataset Name ▲	Brief Description	Project	PI-Supplied Parameter Name
<a href="#">Palau Lake Core Properties</a>	Core Logger Physical Properties for Palau Lakes Sediment Cores	<a href="#">PaPaPro</a>	<a href="#">MSCL_MS_Loop</a>

## GEOSPATIAL ACCESS





## DATABASE

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» skos:exactMatch <http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDm/>

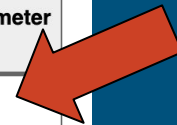
**Minimum Value:**

### Description

The degree to which a sediment sample is affected by a magnetic field.

### Datasets associated with this parameter

Dataset Name ▲	Brief Description	Project	PI-Supplied Parameter Name
<a href="#">Palau Lake Core Properties</a>	Core Logger Physical Properties for Palau Lakes Sediment Cores	<a href="#">PaPaPro</a>	<a href="#">MSCL_MS_Loop</a>



<http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDMD/>

## ↑↑ -- Magnetic susceptibility of the sediment --

URI	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDMD/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDMD/</a>
Identifier ()	SDN:P01::MAGSSEDMD
Preferred label (en)	<b>Magnetic susceptibility of the sediment</b>
Alternative label (en)	MagSus_Sed
Definition (en)	The degree to which a sediment sample is affected by a magnetic field.
Version Info ()	1
Has Current Version	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDMD/1/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDMD/1/</a>
PAV Version ()	1
PAV Authored On ()	2010-11-04 16:17:23.0
Deprecated()	false
Broader	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P02/current/XMGS/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P02/current/XMGS/</a>
Broader	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/S26/current/MAT00136/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/S26/current/MAT00136/</a>
Related	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P06/current/UCGS/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P06/current/UCGS/</a>
Related	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/S02/current/S032/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/S02/current/S032/</a>
Date ()	2010-11-04 16:17:23.0

# <http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDM/>

↑ -- Magnetic susceptibility of the sediment

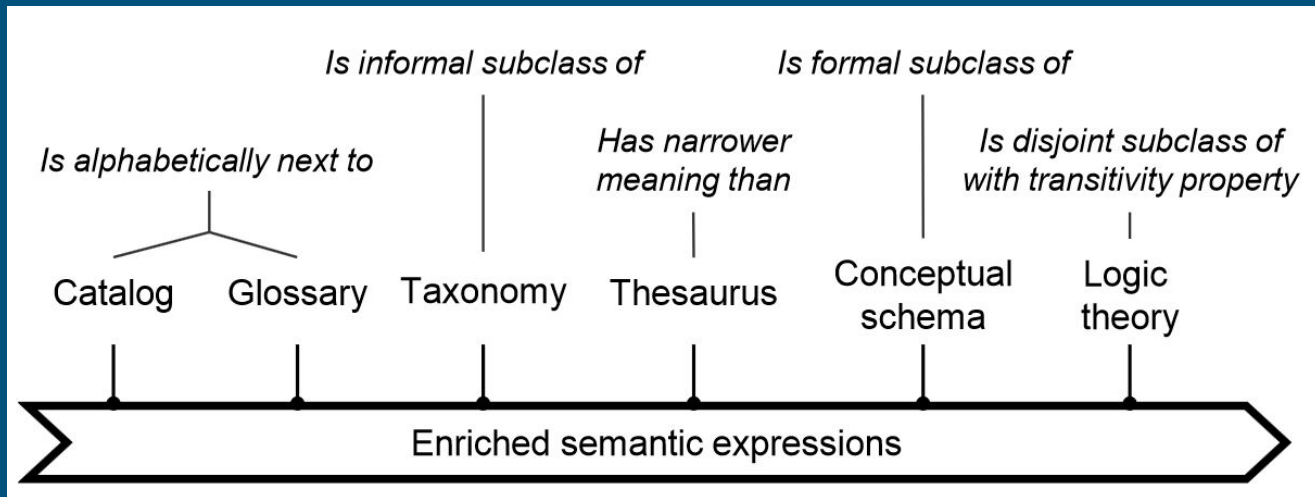
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><?xml-stylesheet href="/VocabV2/Concept2Html.xsl" type="text/xsl" media="screen"?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#" xmlns:skos="http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#"
xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/terms/" xmlns:dce="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
xmlns:rdfs="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#" xmlns:owl="http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#"
xmlns:void="http://rdfs.org/ns/void#" xmlns:pav="http://purl.org/pav/" xmlns:prov="https://www.w3.org/ns/prov#"
xmlns:reg="http://purl.org/linked-data/registry#" xml:base="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDM/">
<skos:Concept rdf:about="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDM/">
<skos:prefLabel xml:lang="en">Magnetic susceptibility of the sediment</skos:prefLabel>
<skos:altLabel xml:lang="en">MagSus_Sed</skos:altLabel>
<skos:definition xml:lang="en">The degree to which a sediment sample is affected by a magnetic field.</skos:definition>
<dc:date>2010-11-04 16:17:23.0</dc:date>
<dc:identifier>SDN:P01::MAGSSEDM</dc:identifier>
<dce:identifier>SDN:P01::MAGSSEDM</dce:identifier>
<skos:notation>SDN:P01::MAGSSEDM</skos:notation>
<owl:versionInfo>1</owl:versionInfo>
<pav:hasCurrentVersion rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P01/current/MAGSSEDM/1/" />
<pav:version>1</pav:version>
<pav:authoredOn>2010-11-04 16:17:23.0</pav:authoredOn>
<skos:note xml:lang="en">accepted</skos:note>
<owl:deprecated>false</owl:deprecated>
<skos:broader rdf:ID="I457489" rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P02/current/XMGS/" />
<skos:related rdf:ID="I457491" rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P06/current/UCGS/" />
<skos:broader rdf:ID="I607358" rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/S26/current/MAT00136/" />
<skos:related rdf:ID="I632964" rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/S02/current/S032/" />
<void:inDataset rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/.well-known/void" />
</skos:Concept>
<rdf:Description rdf:about="#I457489">
<prov:has_provenance rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/mapping/I/457489/" />
</rdf:Description>
<rdf:Description rdf:about="#I457491">
<prov:has_provenance rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/mapping/I/457491/" />
</rdf:Description>
<rdf:Description rdf:about="#I607358">
<prov:has_provenance rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/mapping/I/607358/" />
</rdf:Description>
<rdf:Description rdf:about="#I632964">
<prov:has_provenance rdf:resource="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/mapping/I/632964/" />
</rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
```

tic field.



# Controlled Vocabularies

- A list of terms and definitions identified by URIs
- Some governance model for ensuring consistency
- Defined in relation to each other



# Making ocean data agreeable (with each other)?

Recommendation	Solution	Where is the Solution?
Identify datasets with a persistent URI.	DOIs	<b>Data Repository*</b>
Identify dataset <u>contents</u> with a persistent URI.	Controlled Vocabulary URIs	<b>Domain Repository</b>
Reuse vocabularies, preferably standardized ones.	Community	<b>You!</b>

\*

<https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/the-push-to-replace-journal-supplements-with-repositories--66296>

# In Review

1. We need AGREEMENT about dataset contents.
2. Agreements materialized as symbols (URIs) for computers.





Questions?







# EXTRA SLIDES



# Choosing a Controlled Vocabulary

---

- Availability
- Quality
  - Governance Model
  - Clarity and Precision
  - Completeness
  - Encoding Format (HTML v. Excel/CSV v. RDF/OWL)
- Community Adoption

# Works now, today...even for Datasets

23 results found



Carbon and nitrogen content of  
E. huxleyi at 3 pCO<sub>2</sub> levels, 2011...

[www.bco-dmo.org](http://www.bco-dmo.org)

Published Dec 13, 2016



Nutrient data from the western  
Gulf of Maine (bottles) collecte...

[www.bco-dmo.org](http://www.bco-dmo.org)

Published Jul 23, 2010



Phytoplankton chlorophyll and  
nutrient studies from R/V...

[www.bco-dmo.org](http://www.bco-dmo.org)

Published Jun 1, 2015



Model output from nutrients-  
phytoplankton-zooplankton-...

[www.bco-dmo.org](http://www.bco-dmo.org)

Published Dec 18, 2013



C and N isotope data of  
archaeological fish bones from...

Carbon and nitrogen content of E. huxleyi at 3  
pCO<sub>2</sub> levels, 2011-2012 (E Hux Response to pC  
project)

Emiliana huxleyi CN content

[Explore at www.bco-dmo.org](http://www.bco-dmo.org)

**Dataset published** Dec 13, 2016

**Dataset provided by**

Biological and Chemical Data Management Office

**Authors**

Tristen Wuori; Suzanne Strom; Dr Brooke Love; Dr Brady M. Olson

**License**

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

**Available download formats from providers**

csv, vnd.datapackage+json

**Variables measured**

CO<sub>2</sub> treatment, Days of semi-continuous culture, E. huxleyi strain number  
Nitrogen per cell in picograms, Particulate inorganic carbon per cell in  
picograms, Particulate organic carbon per cell in picograms, Sample date  
replicate, Total carbon per cell in picograms

**Dataset funded by**

NSF Division of Ocean Sciences